

Message Text

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EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, GW, AO

SUBJECT: US-FRG COOPERATION ON ANGOLA

REFS: (A) BONN 20702; (B) STATE 303445; (C) STATE

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1. AFTER SOME DIFFICULTY REACHING APPROPRIATE LEVEL
OVER HOLIDAYS AND IN ABSENCE OF AMBASSADOR WHO IS ON AN
OFFICIAL TRIP TO BERLIN, DCM HAS DISCUSSED US-FRG
COOPERATION ON ANGOLA WITH FONOFF MINISTERIAL DIRECTOR
DR. LAHN.

2. LAHN AGREED THAT WE SHOULD TRY TO PREVENT THE
SOVIET UNION AND CUBA FROM IMPOSING THE MPLA ON THE
PEOPLE OF ANGOLA AND SAID THAT THE FRG IS CONSIDERING
HOW TO "CONFRONT THE (SOVIET) CHALLENGE." FOREIGN
MINISTER GENSCHER INTENDS TO SEND A PERSONAL LETTER TO
AFRICAN FOREIGN MINISTERS WHOM HE KNOWS, INCLUDING
THOSE OF GHANA, LIBERIA, ZAMBIA AND MALAWI, REPEATING
THE ARGUMENTS STATED IN REF B. MULTILATERALLY, THE
NINE IS NOW PREPARING A DEMARCHE FOR AFRICAN COUN-
TRIES RECOMMENDING THAT ALL OUTSIDE FORCES BE WITH-
DRAWN FROM ANGOLA AND THAT THE OAU NOT RECOGNIZE ANY

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OF THE THREE ANGOLAN MOVEMENTS. THE MESSAGE WILL BE

DELIVERED PRIOR TO THE OAU MEETING.

3. LAHN SAID THAT ACCORDING TO LEGISLATION THE FRG IS ALLOWED TO GIVE MILITARY ASSISTANCE ONLY TO GOVERNMENTS. MOREOVER, IT IS ALSO FRG POLICY NOT TO SUPPLY WEAPONS TO "AREAS OF TENSION."

4. IN THE FIELD OF HUMANITARIAN AID, LAHN SAID THE FRG HAS ALREADY GIVEN 40,000 DM EACH TO THE FNLA AND UNITA. IT HAS ALSO CONTRIBUTED 250,000 DM FOR ANGOLAN RELIEF THROUGH THE INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS IN GENEVA, AND 100,000 DM FOR A HOSPITAL IN LUANDA. IT WILL SHORTLY CONTRIBUTE AN ADDITIONAL 200,000 DM TO UNITA AND FNLA FOR SIMILAR HUMANITARIAN PURPOSES.

5. LAHN FELT IT WAS UNREALISTIC TO EXPECT AFRICAN COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE ALREADY RECOGNIZED THE MPLA TO WITHDRAW RECOGNITION. FURTHERMORE, HE EXPECTS THE NUMBER OF COUNTRIES RECOGNIZING THE MPLA TO CONTINUE TO GROW. WE COULD, HOWEVER, TRY TO PERSUADE THE OAU AS AN ORGANIZATION TO REFRAIN FROM RECOGNIZING ANY OF THE WARRING PARTIES.

6. LAHN ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT IF THE MPLA WINS RECOGNITION BY THE MAJORITY OF THE COUNTRIES IN THE OAU, THEN THE WEST SHOULD TAKE UP CONTACTS WITH THE MPLA IN ORDER TO AVOID PUSHING THE MPLA FURTHER INTO THE ARMS OF THE RUSSIANS.

7. SHOULD DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS FAIL, LAHN SAID THAT THE FRG WOULD CONSIDER WHAT ELSE IT COULD DO. HILLENBRAND

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